

Chilocco Indian School in north-central Oklahoma. While stationed at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, he was deployed to Africa to fight in World War II. Childers retired from the Army in 1965 as a Lieutenant Colonel but remained very active in the Tulsa community serving Indian youth, which led to the naming of a middle school in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma in his honor in 1985.

As a proud Creek Indian, in 1966, Childers was honored by the Tulsa Chapter of the Council of American Indians as "Oklahoma's most outstanding Indian." Of his military service in World War II, Childers once said, "The American Indian has only one country to defend, and when you're picked on, the American Indian never turns his back." A fitting quote from a man who exemplified courage under fire and dedication to defending our nation.

Until his death on March 17, 2005, Childers was Oklahoma's last Congressional Medal of Honor recipient still living in the state. I am proud to introduce this legislation to honor his life and legacy. We were honored to have him grace us with his model character, defend us with his bravery, and leave us all with a life well-lived.

IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH
DAILEY

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sorrow for the loss of Stafford County Treasurer Elizabeth Dailey, who recently passed away at the young age of 47. A leader in the community, Elizabeth was a person who sincerely cared about the citizens of Stafford, and worked to make life easier for them. In her tenure as Treasurer since 1993, Elizabeth provided Stafford with service, giving citizens individual assistance with complicated tax and financial issues. As Treasurer, she was an innovative leader and a true public servant. As a colleague, she was regarded as a trusted friend. Everyday, she was a loving wife and mother.

Elizabeth Dailey will truly be missed. I express my utmost condolences to her friends and family, and in a special way, would like to thank Elizabeth's husband Donald and daughter Nicole for sharing this very special lady with the citizens of Stafford County.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join our Nation in honoring the many great contributions of the African American Community by celebrating Black History Month.

Overcoming enormous obstacles and racial barriers, the African American community has made vast contributions to all aspects of American society—music, literature, sports, education, science, business, and politics. We

must remember not only our outstanding heroes such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Frederick Douglass, former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King, this month, but also the extraordinary lives of everyday African Americans who have helped build our great Nation.

I want to particularly honor the lives of two exceptional women who we lost recently: Rosa Parks and Mrs. Coretta Scott King. Their lives and their work for civil rights reflect the struggle and contributions that African Americans have made to our society. Their actions set America on a course of inclusion and tolerance, which continues to benefit us everyday. We must follow their steps and build upon their great accomplishments for equality and justice.

During this month and throughout the year, I encourage those living in California's 32nd Congressional District and around the country to take the time to honor the African American community by learning about its vast accomplishments and rich culture.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.
DONALD COLEMAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Donald Coleman, reporter for the California newspaper, The Fresno Bee.

Donald Coleman was a gentleman, a fine reporter and truly a person with a passion for life. For those of us who had the good fortune to know him or work with him there is now a very empty space. Personally, I will miss the times that Don and I shared together in the Tower District where he would humorously point out the flaws and shortcomings we all experience in life.

As we reflect upon a life well lived, we should rededicate ourselves to caring and helping those less fortunate than ourselves. And in that sense, Don was a good role model for all of us. Donald Coleman cared deeply about his family, his friends and the people who live in our Valley. His passion for people was an inspiration for all of us to try harder the next day. I know after seeing Don I always tried harder the next day. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "The only way to have a friend is to be one." I want to thank you, Donald Coleman, for having been a friend to those of us, who had the good fortune to know you.

The following is a wonderful description of the life and times of Donald Coleman that appeared in the Fresno Bee:

Donald Coleman, the face of The Fresno Bee for many in far-flung rural communities and a fixture in Fresno's Tower District, died of an apparent heart attack Tuesday morning. He was 57.

"We are deeply saddened by the sudden death of reporter Donald Coleman. His good cheer and graciousness were well known throughout many departments here, and he had scores of friends in the community as well. We will not only miss Don as a journalist, but also as a friend," said Charlie Waters, executive editor of The Fresno Bee.

Funeral arrangements are pending. Mr. Coleman's Mercedes rolled into flowerpots in front of the downtown Starbucks on Kern Street at 11:37 a.m. Police said they found him unconscious in the front seat.

His job was covering the rural communities surrounding the city of Fresno.

"He had a lot of concern with what was happening in these small, poorer farming communities. His heart was out here, and he personally was out here. He would visit. He would write our stories," said Joseph Amador, a former Mendota mayor. Colleagues recalled his extraordinary compassion, which he sometimes masked with impish cantankerousness.

Every December, Mr. Coleman unfurled his "Bah Humbug" sign, a banner passed on to him years ago by a cigar-chomping, old-time reporter. But every August, he threw a Christmas party, complete with a tree. The price of admission was a donation for the food banks in a season when people often forget to donate.

He showed up to tutor first-graders at Kirk Elementary School even if it was his day off. Tuesday mornings were his regular visiting day.

Mr. Coleman came to journalism later in life, one of the older students to graduate with a journalism degree from California State University, Fresno, in 1988, the year he started working at The Bee. Earlier in life, he was a college football player, a seminary student, a banker, a law student and an airline employee.

He was at times The Bee's only black news reporter.

"We discussed racial issues many times, and I learned a great deal from him. In many ways, I think he was a pioneer," said Jim Tucker, host of "Valley Press" and one of Mr. Coleman's journalism professors.

Outside of work, Mr. Coleman was the consummate man about town, friend to everyone, especially in the Tower District.

"He was the unofficial secretary of state. He knew everyone, and everyone knew him: hairstylists, lawyers, bartenders, professors, artists, poseurs and idiots. Don was wonderful to everyone. The word that comes to mind is sweet. He was the most decent guy. I don't know why he put up with all of us," said longtime friend Andrew Simmons.

He was passionate about travel and family—he carried a picture of his grandmother in his wallet. He bought lottery tickets, planning his Jamaican escape. Bee colleagues on Tuesday recalled his running shtick when the jackpots were high.

"It's my last day," he'd say. "Do you want to say goodbye?"

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
OTTAWA NATIONAL FOREST

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a northern Michigan natural phenomenon that will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary of restoring the natural beauty and resources of Michigan's Upper Peninsula (U.P.). This year the Ottawa National Forest will celebrate 75 years of service but an endless impact on the vibrant habitat.

During the early 1900's, loggers flocked to Michigan's western U.P. to take advantage of what seemed to be an endless supply of pine trees. Used for fuel, paper products and the timber necessary to build cities like Detroit and Chicago, the once lush, vast forests were gutted and left as a desolate wasteland by the late 1920's.

In 1931 the fate of that land would change forever when President Herbert Hoover signed